

D-769
Phillips-Leonard House
Cambridge
c. 1900
Private

The two-and-a-half story asymmetrically designed frame house at 106 Choptank Avenue was built around the turn of the twentieth century for Levi B. and Florence T. Phillips. Recently home from a seafaring life in the Chesapeake and Caribbean trade in 1898, Levi B. Phillips purchased lots on Choptank Avenue and financed construction of this sizable Queen Anne style frame dwelling. As a relatively young man of 30 years in 1898, he had married Florence T. Brannock three years before on July 23, 1895. Levi B. Phillips entered into the oyster packing business on his return home under the name L. B. Phillips & Co. He and his brother Albanus organized shortly afterwards with W. Grason Winterbottom, the Phillips Packing Company. In 1912, Levi and Florence Phillips decided to build a new house on Mill Street (D-536), and the couple sold 106 Choptank Avenue to Calvert S. and Mary E. Leonard in 1919. Although Calvert S. Leonard died in 1932, the property remained in Mary's name until the mid 1950s. By the vehicle of Mary Leonard's will, the house and lot passed to her two sons, Leon L. Leonard and James Calvert Leonard. Leon L. Leonard and his wife Genevieve, residents of Baltimore County, sold their interests in the property to his brother James, in whose hands the property remained until the late 1980s. The property was not sold out of the family until 2007.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-769

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Phillips-Leonard House

other

2. Location

street and number 106 Choptank Avenue not for publication

city, town Cambridge Vicinity

county

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Sharrell A. Kline

street and number 6 Oakley Street telephone

city, town Cambridge state MD zip code 21613

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 788 folio 525

city, town Cambridge tax map 301 tax parcel 153 tax ID number 7-129246

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-769

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Phillips-Leonard house is located at 106 Choptank Street in the City of Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half asymmetrical Victorian house, built around 1900-10, rests on a combination pier and solid brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboards. The steeply pitched hip roof is extended with various gables on each side and is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has been abandoned for many years and the new owners are in the process of a restoration/renovation. The interior has been stripped down to the studs.

COMPREHENSIVE DESCRIPTION

The Phillips-Leonard house, built around 1900-10, is a two-and-a-half story Victorian house of asymmetrical design. Supported on a combination pier and solid brick foundation, the early twentieth century structure is clad with a blend of plain weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles within the gables. The steeply pitched hip roof, extended on each side by gable roofed projections, is covered with asphalt shingles. Piercing the roofline are single flue brick stove chimneys. The house faces northwest with the hip roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

The northeast (main) elevation is an asymmetrical façade oriented around a center double-door entrance. The wall surface to the right (south) of the doorway is defined by a projecting, square sided bay window fitted with single-pane sash windows. The first floor is sheltered by a wraparound turned post porch that defines the northwest and southwest sides. Turned porch posts are combined with a turned spindle screen and sawn corner brackets within the eaves. The first and second stories are defined by a combination of two-over-two and single-pane sash windows. Piercing the gable roofed projections are paired or single one-over-one sash windows framed by a field of fishscale shingles. The edges of the roof are extended and finished with boxing and returns.

The interior of the house has been gutted down to the studs due to its poor condition and abandoned state. The staircase had in fact been removed.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-769

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The two-and-a-half story asymmetrically designed frame house at 106 Choptank Avenue was built around the turn twentieth century for Levi B. and Florence T. Phillips. Recently home from a seafaring life in the Chesapeake and Caribbean trade in 1898, Levi B. Phillip purchased lots¹ on Choptank Avenue and financed construction of this sizable Queen Anne style frame dwelling as a relatively young man and husband to Florence T. Brannock; the couple had married on July 23, 1895.² Levi B. Phillips entered into the oyster packing business under the name L.B. Phillips & Co. He and his brother Albanus, organized shortly afterwards with W.G. Winterbottom, the Phillips Packing Company. In 1912, Levi and Florence Phillips decided to build a new house on Mill Street (D-536), and the couple sold 106 Choptank Avenue to Calvert S. and Mary E. Leonard.³ Although Calvert S. Leonard died in March 1932, the property remained in Mary's name until the mid 1950s.⁴ By the vehicle of Mary Leonard's will, the house and lot passed to her two sons, Leon L. Leonard and James Calvert Leonard.⁵ Leon L. Leonard and his wife Genevieve, residents of Baltimore County, sold their interest in the house to James Calvert Leonard, in whose hands the property remained until the late 1980s.⁶ The property was not sold out of the family until 2007.⁷

¹ Dorchester County Land Records, CL 22/542, 17 August 1898; CL 2/468, 19 June 1897, Dorchester County Courthouse.

² Elias Jones, *New Revised History of Dorchester County, Maryland*. Cambridge, Maryland: Tidewater Publishers, 1966, p. 438-39.

³ Dorchester County Land Record, WHM 6/548, 22 July 1919, Dorchester County Courthouse.

⁴ Dorchester County Land Record, RSM 90/312, 12 April 1954, Dorchester County Courthouse.

⁵ Dorchester County Will Book, APM 2/84, 4 May 1954, Dorchester County Courthouse.

⁶ Dorchester County Land Record, RSM 90/312, 12 April 1954; see also PLC 261/801, 14 May 1990, Dorchester County Courthouse.

⁷ Dorchester County Land Record, MLB 788/525, 7 February 2007, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-769

Name Phillips-Leonard House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Phillips-Leonard House
106 Choptank Avenue
Cambridge

Map 301, Parcel 153

MLB 788/525

Michael G. Leonard

to

2.07.2007

Sharrell A. Kline

\$160,000

PLC 261/801

Aleta M. Leonard, Personal Representative of
James Calvert Leonard

to

5.14.1990

Michael Leonard

Whereas James Calvert Leonard died intestate on or about
10.19.1989

RSM 90/312

Leon L. Leonard and Genevieve Leonard of
Baltimore County, Maryland

to

4.12.1954

James Calvert Leonard

Undivided half-interest (upon the death of Calvert S. Leonard
on or about 3.6.1932 to Mary E. Leonard; the land was conveyed
to Leon L. Leonard and James C. Leonard by Last Will and

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-769

Name Phillips-Leonard House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

WHM 6/548

Testament of Mary E. Leonard, 5.4.1954, APM 2/84
Levi B. Phillips and Florence T. Phillips

to

7.22.1919

Calvert S. Leonard and Mary E. Leonard

106 Choptank Avenue

CL 2/468

James C. Leonard and Kate Leonard

to

6.19.1897

Levi B. Phillips

CL 22/542

James C. Leonard

to

8.17.1898

Levi B. Phillips

CL 6/84 & 85

John H. Phillips

to

4.19.1884

James C. Leonard and Samuel H. Mills

\$2,000

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-769

Name Phillips-Leonard House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

FJH 13/186

William H. Jordon and Dr. Richard H. Dixon

to

3.31.1879

John H. Phillips and Mary P. Phillips

\$1,000all that lot or parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated on the north east corner of the town of Cambridge in the county aforesaid, where the said Mary P. Phillips and her husband now live

FJH 7/538

The Dorchester & Delaware Railroad

to

2.4.1869

William H. Jordon and Dr. Richard H. Dixon

\$1,250

FJH 6/431

William H. Grace and wife Anne M. and William A. Cook and Mary P. Cook

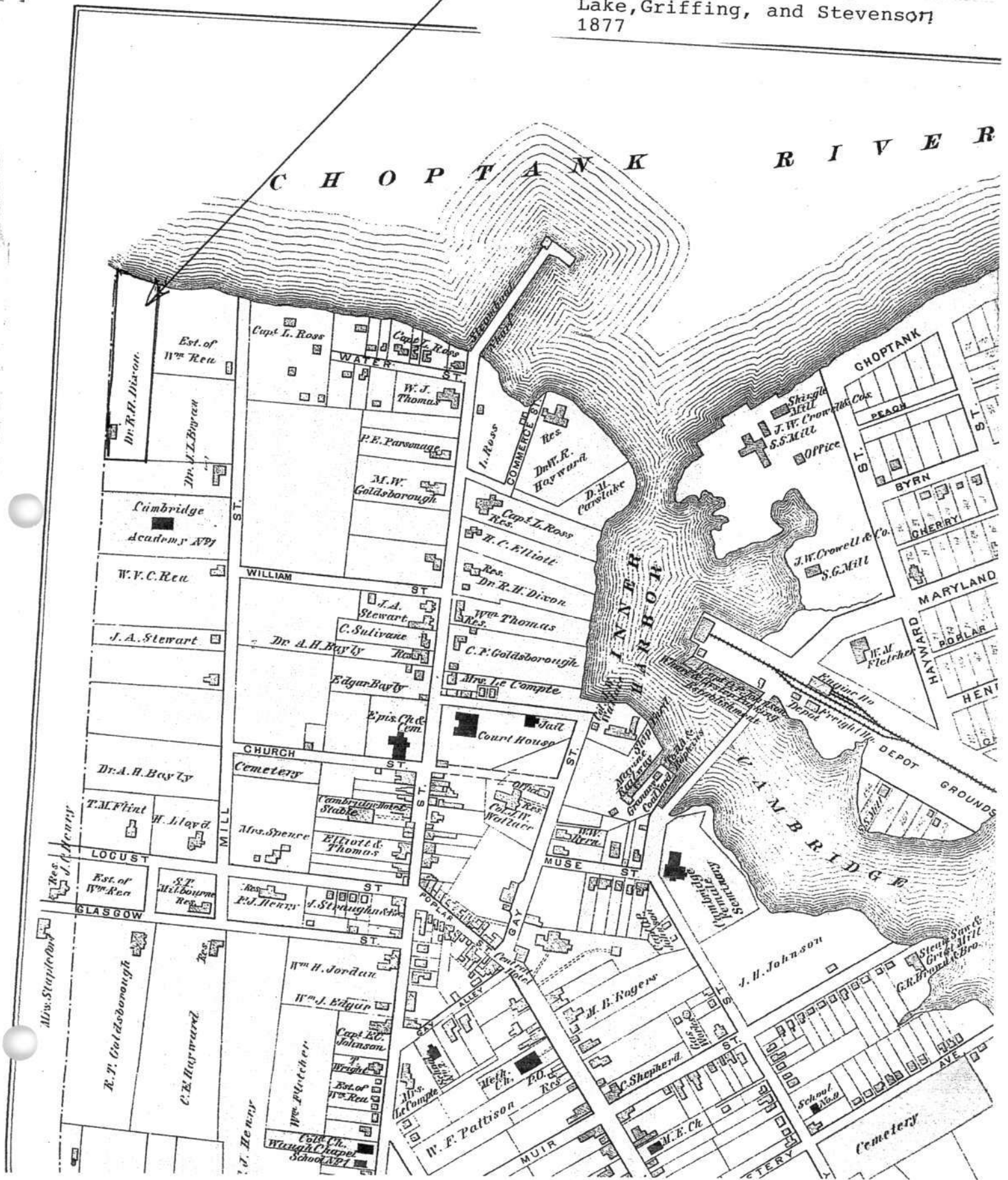
to

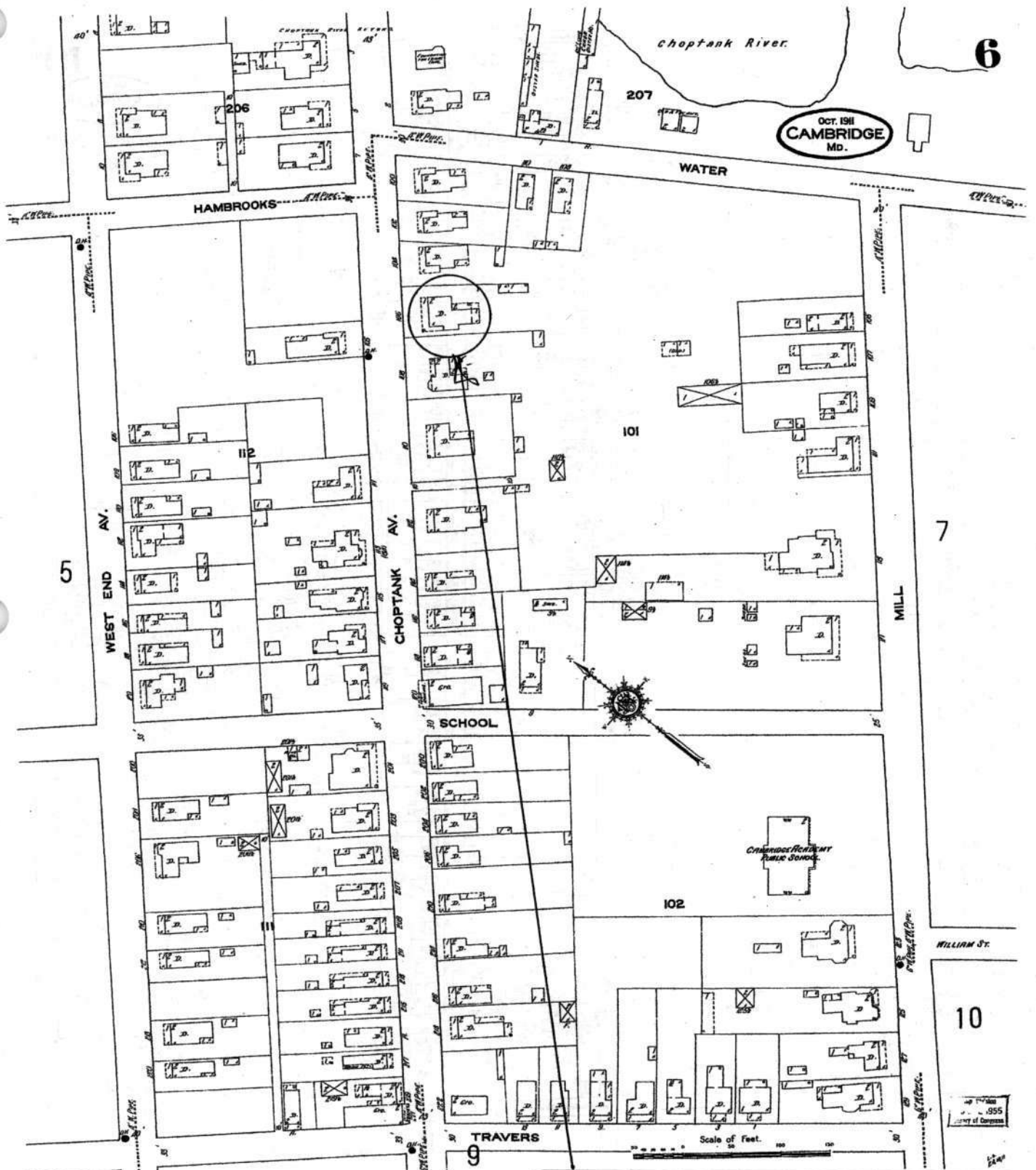
8.22.1866

Dorchester & Delaware Railroad

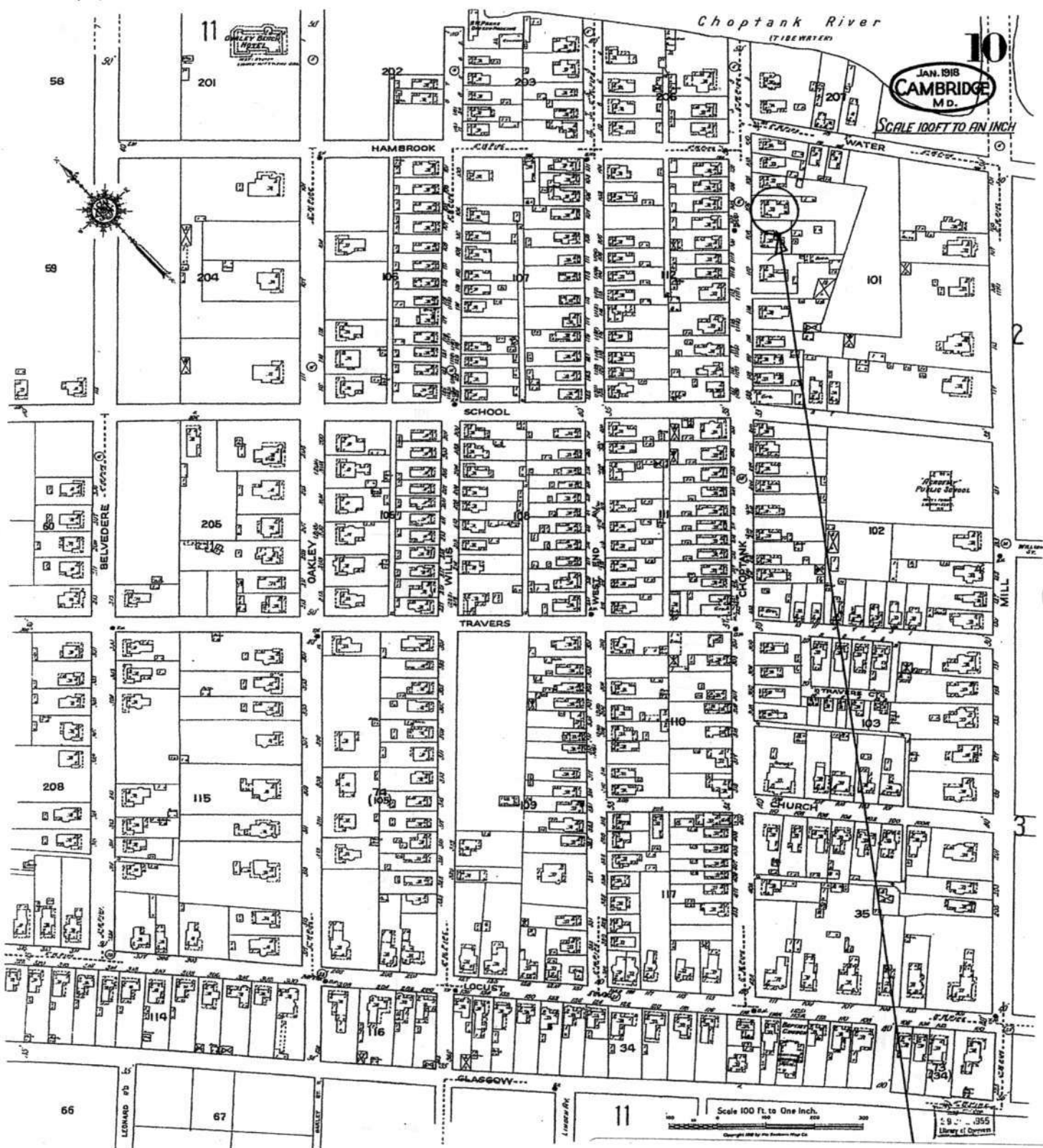
\$1,200All that lot of Ground which they inherited from Thomas Cook late of Dorchester County, deceased, and which lies within the suburbs of the Town of Cambridge and which is fully and particularly described in a deed of Loftes from Sarah Alexander in the year eighteen hundred

D-769, Phillips-Leonard House
Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson
1877





D-769, Phillips-Leonard House
Sanborn Insurance Map-1911



D-769, Phillips-Leonard House
Sanborn Insurance Map-191

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-769

Name Phillips-Leonard House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

and twenty seven and being the same lot Thomas Cook purchased of a William Rea & wife on the fourteenth day of August eighteen hundred and forty three, and lying between Rea's pond & the North Western line of the Town of Cambridge, subject nevertheless to the dower interest of Mrs. Martha Cook, widow of Thomas Cook, deceased

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-769

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Dorchester County Will Books, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 11,624 square feet

Acreage of historical setting

Quadrangle name Cambridge, Maryland Quadrangle Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

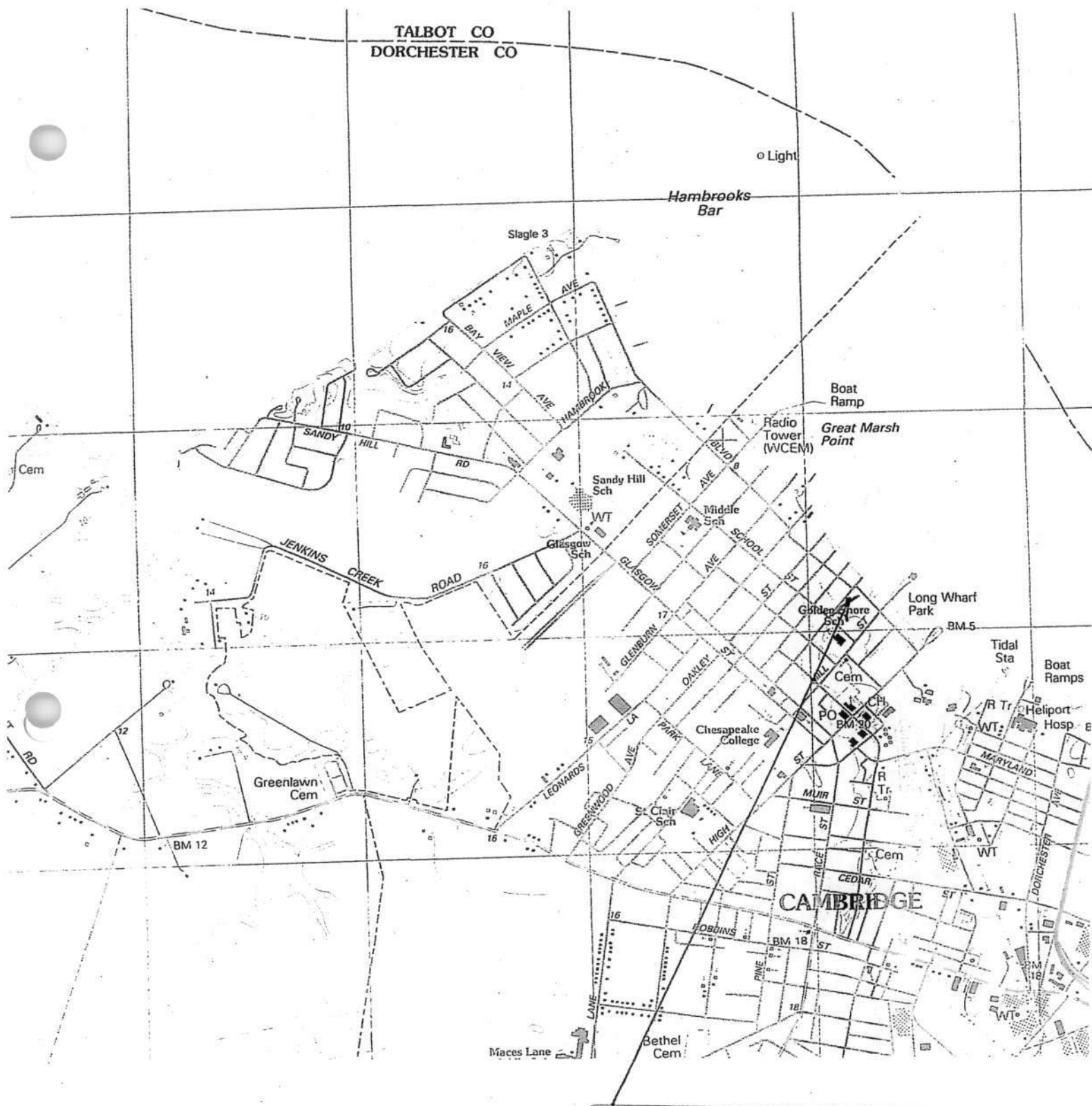
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	10/31/2008
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

TALBOT CO
DORCHESTER CO



D-769, Phillips-Leonard House
Cambridge, MD Quadrangle



D-769

PHILLIPS-LEONARD HOUSE
CAMBRIDGE, DORCHESTER CO., MD.
NORTHWEST ELEVATION

11/00, PAUL TUNANT, PHOTOGRAPHER
NPG, / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST



D-769

PHILLIPS - LEVANTER HOUSE

CAMBRIDGE, DORCHESTER Co. MD.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

11/08, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

WES./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2/2